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2 Legislators Say U.S. Breaks Law in Aiding Anti-Sandinists

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MANAGUA, Nicaragua, April 11 — Two United States Congressmen said today after a four-day trip to Nicaragua and Honduras that they are convinced the Reagan Administration is actively supporting anti-Sandinist insurgents in violation of Federal law.

They said their conclusions were based on conversations with Honduran soldiers, Government officials in Nicaragua and Honduras and people in touch with the "contras," as the insurgents are known.

"We visited refugee camps in Honduras where mothers of contras spoke with pride about the training their sons had received from Americans and the weapons they had been given by Americans," said Representative Robert G. Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey.

"There is certainly no question we are supporting the contras," said Representative Berkley Bedell, Democrat of Iowa. "We spoke to people who had been held prisoner by the contras and with other people familiar with their operations, and there was a clear pattern in their comments that leads inevitably to that conclusion."

Both legislators said they considered the Administration to be in violation of the law approved by Congress last December that forbids the Government from financing groups fighting to overthrow the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua. They said they would press for hearings on the matter after their return to Washington tonight.

The two were members of a delega-

tion organized by the Private Commission on United States-Central American Relations. The director of the commission, Gino Lofredo, said the 10-member delegation "has been exposed to enough evidence to conclude that allegations of American support for counterrevolutionary groups operating from Honduras are accurate."

Another member of the group, Robert E. White, who retired from the Foreign Service after President Reagan removed him from his post as Ambassador to El Salvador in 1981, said:

"What has depressed me the most is to see what our intervention is doing to Honduras. We are radicalizing that country and reducing the chance that the fledgling democracy there can survive."